



ARCHITECTURE

bringing the outside inside

words by SHERI BAER



It's evening, and the entire family is gathered. And while the weather is lovely, you don't quite want to be outside. As water glasses are filled on the table, floor-to-ceiling pocketing doors are drawn back into the wall. Fresh air, scented with seasonal flowers, flows into the room, and the sounds of chirping birds and buzzing bees intermix with the dinner conversation and dishes being passed. As you settle into this moment, with an almost imperceptible sigh, all the stresses of the day

slip away. This is indoor-outdoor living.

"When people go on vacation, they live a certain way. They always talk about how freeing it was," notes architect Danielle Wyss. "And then they come back and they live a very different way. Indoor-outdoor allows you to literally take down walls but to also take down figurative walls."

For that reason, Danielle is always looking for ways to incorporate indoor-outdoor elements into her projects. As an architect designing custom homes for Peninsula clients, she draws from years of experience—along with her own personal appreciation for this area's almost-unparalleled climate.

Originally from Reno, Danielle soaked up Pacific Northwest precipitation while earning her architecture degree from the

Los Altos Great Room

GOAL: Create a seamless flow from inside to outside for both entertaining and daily lounging.
APPROACH: Having the space to pocket the doors into the wall entirely requires forethought in the schematic design phase. Here, we hide them behind the fireplace. The wall is 12" thick to accommodate all the door leafs and screen leafs fully pocketing away.
PRO TIP: Paint the inside of the door pocket framing black.